30-Amos-07-Transcript

[Music]

SO

[Music]

SO

[Music]

[Applause]

[Music] well greetings brethren and welcome to another line upon line wednesday night bible study where we do exactly that we go through the scriptures line upon line this evening god willing we're going to cover amos chapter 7 we're already up to the seventh of nine chapters we've been looking at the eighth century prophets these are the pre-exiled prophets and they're relevant to us today as we study their scriptures and then their prophecies we see this immediate fulfillment that they're prophesying but also in their wording we see that there's a latter time fulfillment so these um pre-exilic prophets are warning israel that you're gonna you're about to go into exile and that's the parallel for us today we need to understand our society is collapsing and our military defense departments are no longer able to defend us against vicious enemies and we are on the verge of going into captivity and so it's important for us to understand the messages of these eighth century prophets and in particular now we're studying that message of the prophet amos let's open with the word of prayer and then we'll get into this evening study our heavenly father great god almighty we are just

in awe of you we're in awe of your covenant faithfulness and we just we're so grateful for these ancient scriptures that you've put it on our hearts of all the billions of people on the planet you've put it in our hearts father to really have a deep desire to understand your scripture and then you've blessed us with your spirit so that we can in fact have that understanding and so we pray for your continued mercy father upon your people we pray father that through the holy spirit we can be committed to the pursuit of truth and the proclamation of truth regardless of consequences we thank you great god for jesus christ and we pray in his name amen so amos chapter 7 is where we are today let me get my scripture up here and in fact um last week i did see at the tail end of the uh chat last week somebody asked the question because i i was really emphasizing that jesus christ is furious he is furious and and i think somebody asked the question well isn't the father furious as well absolutely yes the father is furious then why do i keep emphasizing that christ is furious partly because people have this false concept of christ as just all forgiving totally tolerant loving anything goes

and that's not christ he certainly is extremely forgiving but as forgiving as he is he is also severe

behold the mercy and the severity of god and so we've got to just crack open or or break this false concept that many are portraying

of christ as anything goes secondly i emphasize

that christ is furious because of this

scripture here in john 5 and verse 22 for the father

judges no man so yes the father is furious

but christ reveals to us that he judges no man but he has committed all judgment unto the son

so yes the father is furious however he has committed all judgment

unto christ

why would he do that

that all men should honor the son

and you know i think because of

historically

this

real heavy focus on christ to the exclusion of the father i think in the church of god movement we may have swung the other way with this heavy emphasis on the father to the exclusion of christ and we need to understand that

yes

the father is furious

but he's committed all judgment to christ why so that all men should honor the son even as they honor the father so so if the father wants all the honor that he is due he wants that same level of honor on his son he that honors not the son

honors not the father which has sent him and i again i just within the church of

god movement we may have swung the pendulum too far the other way and we don't praise christ enough and i know we had

one

longtime brother he's not with us anymore

but long time he he died a longtime uh faithful

brother in the in the faith for decades and uh he came into cgi and was looking at our hymns and he had a lot of trouble with the hymns that praised christ he was he was offended but

there's no need to be offended we need to praise christ we need to glorify christ we need to reflect christ that's what the father wants so yes the father is very very angry but he's committed all judgment to the son and it is the son who's returning and it is the son who's going to render his judgment on this earth and in amos now just we're going into the the substance of the prophet amos chapters 7 8 and 9 show us the visions

that amos had regarding the fate the fate

of israel so we're getting into the substance now what we've been covering up to now i would say is context so just a quick review of the context of these visions

first of all we looked at in chapters one and two that unlike isaiah and unlike micah amos was very focused on the

the fate of israel the northern tribes whereas when we looked at isaiah and micah

they were sent to the south and they were very focused on judah and jerusalem amos while he had a judgment for judah his focus was on the north but he also had judgments for all the surrounding nations so so the purview of amos is much wider than both that both micah and isaiah so now we come to this judgment of amos and the focus though although he's he's declaring judgment on the surrounding nations we see here in verse 6 the focus is on israel for thus says the lord so that same pattern three transgressions and for four meaning this is thorough uh complete iniquity of israel i will not turn away the punishment thereof this is it they've gone too far because they sold the righteous for silver and the poor for a pair of shoes in verse 1 of chapter 3 we saw this hear this word that the lord has spoken against you o children of israel it's against israel against the whole family which i brought up from the land of egypt saying you only have i known of all the families of the earth so this is critical the this is the tribe or these are the tribes these are the peoples that have entered into a covenant relationship a covenant relationship not just a relationship a covenant an eternal covenant relationship with the creator and and this this is the you can actually feel the pain of jehovah's heart

when he says you only of all the families of the earth you're the only ones that i have been in this intimate relationship with therefore i will punish you for all your iniquities and then he asks this famous question we all know it can two walk together except they be agreed and i think we know the answer is no there has to be agreement and that agreement was actually in place the agreement was there these are people that entered into this covenant and told moses yes all that the lord has said we will do we agree and so there was this covenantal agreement and now they don't agree anymore so somebody's been unfaithful somebody has turned away from their covenant responsibilities and that's why they can no longer walk together in verse 8 he sends this terrifying signal to the nation the lion has roared who will not fear like come on and this is really the message even to us within the first fruits covenant community looking forward to the return of christ let's not take him for granted the lion has roared he is furious do we as we live our lives as we study the scriptures as we engage one another is there this context to our lives of the fury of jesus christ or do we live our lives like ah there's

real there's no emergency here nothing nothing to be worried about everything's

fine everything's fine go back to sleep it's all good well again these eighth century prophets they spoke they were ignored and calamity struck and their message was not just for the people of their day they're pre-exited pre-exilic we are pre-exilic and so it's the we don't have new scripture to turn to we don't have prophets on the earth right now we know the two witnesses are coming and they're prophets and that's not to say that there may not be other prophets but we have this scripture and it is very much relevant today we just have to understand how to read it but it is very relevant for today and the line god has roared do we dare be complacent do we dare have this uh oh we're good there's no no need to worry that's that's just god letting off steam is that our attitude the lion has roared who will not fear the lord god has spoken who can but prophesy and i think when we covered this um when we were covering chapter three i said you know this sounds like paul woe unto me if i preach not the gospel so god has spoken the prophet has no choice but to prophesy now it's up to the people whether or not they will listen in chapter five we see the answer although there's all this destruction coming he gives the instruction seek the lord seek yehovah and you will live lest he break out like a fire in the house of joseph and devour it our god is

a consuming fire and there be none to quench it in bethel

SO

we have a choice

we can turn our hearts to god and pursue

him

or we can take him for granted

and we saw in chapter 5 that as evil as

the nation was

the evil

extended itself into

the religious community

and that was a warning to us today again

these pre-exiled prophets are not just

for the 8th century

they're for our century

they're for our day right now

and in amos 5 and verse 21 we see this

remarkable statement from god himself i

hate

god himself i hate

i despise your feast days

and i will not smell in your solemn

assemblies i'm not going to accept your

offerings

this this is chilling

what this says you can you can just

actually envision the whole community

as they engage in

their

weekly sabbath service but not just the

weekly sabbath service you can actually

envision them

engaging

in the annual festivals

and in doing this

you can actually feel

the

complacency but maybe even more so the confidence we are god's people look at all those pagans out there they have no idea that today's the high day look at us and look at our offering

and yet if you were to see

how god perceives their offering it's the exact opposite of how they perceive themselves i i just find this chilling and humbling and cause for introspection he says i hate i despise your feast days no he's not talking to pagans i hate i despise your feast days and i will not smell in your solemn assemblies and then we saw in chapter six woe to them this is the point this is the point woe to them that are at ease where in zion zion is the religious center it's the the religious heart it's the center of the whole covenant community and and there's a curse now on the people who are operating within zion who are at ease and i said last week that you know the equivalent to the sort of the 21st century equivalent of this would be the church and and i don't mean cgi just mean the church of god that here in the 21st century as we're just in the closing paragraphs of the history of mankind this is an alarming time to be alive and we know that i think everybody knows everybody senses something is strange the world has never been like this where it's just unraveling globally and and in an accelerated fashion we've never seen this and so this is a time for alarm cry aloud spare not this is the time for zion to be the opposite of at ease to be in a state of

urgency this is an emergency that those with spiritual eyes need to help the the natural man wake up and understand but if those with spiritual eyes are asleep what hope is there for the natural man what hope is there for the carnal man so there's a curse now where the prophet says woe to them that are at ease in zion and trust in the mountain of samaria this is the powerful government which are named chief of the nations to whom the house of israel came so they're going after the the state the lord god has sworn by himself the chapter ends says the lord god of hosts i abhor the excellency of jacob and hate his palaces therefore will i their covenant god their covenant partner therefore will i deliver up the city with all that is therein so with that as a reminder and as a backdrop let's now get into amos chapter 7 and i just want to go all the way back to chapter one verse one these are the words of amos who was among the herd men of toccoa so he's a jew coming from the south and these words of amos this scripture that we're reading it says which he saw concerning israel so isaiah's message was concerning judah amos's message

he saw this concerning israel and he's a contemporary with isaiah so he's he's there prophesying in the days of azaya king of judah and in the days of jeroboam the son of joash king of israel

two years before the earthquake today we would say you know two years before the pandemic and you wouldn't would not well which pandemic are you talking about we would all know

or two years before 9 11. which 911 there's many 911s if this is the earthquake and this is clearly an earthquake of judgment and there were two years of preaching warning that this is coming

and some listened most did not but the point here is this is a vision

this is something that amos saw and now

we're going to see what he saw he's going to actually give us five visions in the remaining chapters three here in chapter seven alone so what did he see chapter 7 and verse 1

thus has the lord god

showed unto me this this is what i saw i'm i'm telling you this is amos i'm not making this up i'm telling you what the lord showed me

thus has the lord god showed unto me and behold

he formed grasshoppers in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth and it was the latter growth after the king's mowings

SO

this is the fall the final harvest and as they're preparing to gather the final harvest god is preparing locusts to devour their wealth in other words the economy is about to crash and even

the highest people in the land the king

himself are go nobody's going to escape this economic collapse even though the elite think that they can structure themselves and protect themselves god is going to crash the economy at a level that it's going to touch everybody and so this is after the king's mowings and the sense here of the king's mowings is they would go and harvest for the king for the king's animals so they would take all this hay and and give it to the king's cavalry and and we see this sort of indication of the relationship between these corrupt kings and the israelites is right at the beginning when they wanted a king and and samuel tried to warn them from god and said this in verse 14 and he will take of your fields he'll take your fields and your vineyards and your olive yards even the best of them so when the king went and the kings these take him the best of everything and give them to his servants even to his horses and he will take the tenth of your seat and of your vineyards and give to his officers and to his servants so you do the work and they'll just come along and take from you does it sound familiar they'll just keep raising taxes and just finding every which way to take from you back to amos 7 verse 2 and it came to pass that when they had made an end of eating the grass of the land then i said oh lord god forgive i'm begging you by whom shall jacob arise for he is small so so the prophet is giving this very

dire warning

but at the same time he's appealing to

god

not to be so devastating in his judgment

and so he's pleading with god to forgive

them

and

his rationale is

jacob is small kind of it kind of sounds

like moses

when god wants to wipe out israel and

moses is appealing to god

you know think of what the nations

around will say

and then the lord

interesting in verse 3

the lord repented for this

it shall not be says the lord

so the prophet was successful

in in having god back off

and and not destroy the people to the

extent that he was planning

but then he gets another vision

thus has the lord god showed unto me

and behold

the lord god called

to contend by fire

and it devoured the great deep and did

eat up apart

so whatever this was

it was such a powerful fire that it even

dried up all the all the irrigation

source of irrigation

and it just destroyed everything so you

know to us you know maybe the equivalent

of this in the modern context would be

like a 911

to contend by fire

uh so you know who knows what this would

be for us but certainly something is is

brewing and you know while we're

sleeping

something is under the surface so at

night people are busy

and it might take them years to pull it off

but you look at the we we look to america

as the leader of the free world and america's borders are wide open she has no protection from any enemy all

over the world

anyone anywhere all over the world who hates her can just walk walk into the walk across the open border and into america and then begin plotting and designing

for something spectacular so again these prophets although they're 8th century they're relevant to us today and once america the head of the free world goes down the whole free world goes with it

just so you know

do any of it does canada stand a chance when america collapses and people think oh we we can't stand tweets we can't stand tweets get rid of the tweeter because we don't like tweets

okay he's gone

now what have you got

from my perspective and i'm a canadian so i don't know the ins and outs

but from my perspective you don't have somebody who's loyal to you if you're an american

you don't have you don't have someone who's who's patriotic

to the country

you've got someone who's selling you out and and the consequences are going to be catastrophic

and you know

he wouldn't be in that role and he he couldn't do what he's doing and his party couldn't do what i shouldn't say he

but the party

the administration couldn't do what it's doing without the collaboration of the republicans they're as corrupt as one another and then the people are looking to these people for any sort of hope well god called to contend by fire and it devoured the great deep and did he eat up apart then said i oh lord god cease this is too much i'm begging you by whom shall jacob arise and again for he is small amos sees the reality jacob might think he's wonderful jacob might think oh i'm so powerful amos sees he's nothing but he's covenant he's he's the covenant partner with god and so he's pleading with god please don't do this at this at this level and the lord repented for this this also shall not be says the lord god and yet jacob persists in his iniquity and so in verse 7 thus he showed me this is the third vision now we're going to see five this is the third of five thus he showed me and behold the lord stood upon a wall made by a plumb line with a plumb line in his hand so if you're not familiar with a plumb line think of a cone a weighted cone maybe made out of something like lead tied to a string and you basically lower it until the cone at the bottom stops shaking and it points directly down and then that line is is a true vertical it's like it's like a level if you if

you um if you want to make sure a surface is level you have a leveler a level and you put it and when the the bubble is in the middle you know that the surface is level well this would be like taking a leveler and turning it so that you want to make sure the wall is is truly straight so if you're a builder you'd be very familiar with a plumb line because you want to make sure that a wall is proper especially if you're building in these times they'd be building out of stone if it's not structured properly it's going to collapse and and cause death so the plumb line even though it's a small inexpensive tool it's critical because you want to make sure that your structure is sound well here the lord has the the israel is basically the wall and they've built themselves up but then god is coming along to see how true are you are you built properly and so here now he comes with a plumb line in his hand and the lord said unto me amos what do you see again this is a vision that was given to amos so he could understand what was going to happen to his people and the lord said unto me amos what do you see i said a plumb line then said the lord behold i will set a plum line in the midst of my people israel and i will not again pass by them anymore in other words so the way we would interpret this

the structure

that israel has built over many decades and that they're very proud of and they think is really something to be proud of and it's just like wow look what we've built

god is saying it's it's unsound the structure that you have built is unsound

and

there's it cannot be renovated it cannot be worked with it just has to be torn down

SO

his plumb line shows
the unsoundness of the structure that
israel has built
and then he says this
i will not again pass by them anymore
in other words it's over
it's over i'm i'm done so whatever
happens happens i've i've done all i can
these people are
structurally unsound
and they're unwilling
to be corrected

i'm done

and the high places of isaac shall be desolate again they're so proud of these high places but god is looking at them and he sees idolatry the high places of isaac shall be desolate

and and almost like isaac is calling right back to their root and their foundation they've been corrupt from the beginning

and so even though they would be proud of their heritage god is saying even your forefathers

this is something that's been passed on from generation to generation and the high places of eyes that shall be desolate and the sanctuaries of israel shall be laid waste
and i will rise against the house of
jeroboam with the sword so even the
sanctuaries again this is the religious
community
will be laid waste
and even though it's
8th century we've got to bring it
forward

and see how is it relevant to us today and so there's a warning here for god's church

when he says even the sanctuaries of israel will be laid way is it possible that even we as a church are not what god is looking for that if he were to bring a plumb line to measure the church that it would be bent

it would be crooked it wouldn't be straight

that he would say yes i can i can build on this

maybe i'm asking the question and so now he says

i personally

i jehovah

me personally the covenant partner with israel

i will rise against the house of jeroboam with the sword so jeroboam is the king and god is saying i'm going to tear him down

i'm going to tear this whole thing down from the top to the toe then this is quite fascinating

verse 10 so so god has pronounced the judgment against the king

against the state

now in verse 10

then amaziah

the priest of bethel so bethel is their religious center bethel is their zion it's the religious center of the north

one of two the main one and amaziah the priest of bethel sent to jeroboam king of israel saying amos has conspired i find this just i'm sorry for laughing it's it is it's it's hilarious on the surface if it wasn't so tragic but he says here amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of israel the judgment is against the king god is the one that says i will i personally will rise against jeroboam with the sword god is the one that just showed uh amos amos just saw a plumb line and then god says what did you see and he says well i see a plumb line okay let me explain to you what i'm going to do and that culminates in i'm going to take the sword and slaughter jeroboam and his whole house then it's the religious leader it's the high priest amaziah the priest of bethel who sent to jeroboam king of israel saying amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of israel so you know it's funny how everything's a conspiracy theory if it works one way but it's a real conspiracy if it works the other so clearly amos is an insurrectionist amos wants to tear down the government he needs to be put in prison because this is not a theory he's he's in the midst of israel and people are listening to him and uh he's conspiring against you so we don't say oh welcome conspiracy

theory no this is a real conspiracy because

this is flowing the way against the state so if it's ever something that the state is doing well then it's a conspiracy oh conspiracy theory conspiracy theory is that you with your conspiracy theor

is that you with your conspiracy theory again

but if it's against the state well then it's insurrection we need to put this down we need to deal with this amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of israel the land is not able

to bear all his words

o king

o state

instead of the the church of the priest being the the conscience of the state and showing the state look this is what the scripture says this you've gone too far

no

the the the what should be the religious conscience of the state is now partnering with the state and putting down the prophet you would think if anybody could understand the prophet it would be the priest

he says here

amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of israel the land isn't able to bear all this so we can't

take it

for thus

amos says

that jeroboam shall die by the sword uh excuse me that is something that god says

in verse 9 god says i will rise i personally jehovah will rise against the house of jeroboam with the sword

amos is just a messenger he's just saying this is what god told me a messiah runs to jeroboam and says amos is conspiring against you for thus says amos jeroboam shall die by the sword and israel shall surely be led away captive out of their land and the land cannot bear his words we we want smooth things give us smooth don't give us rough and this is tough what are you saying you're saying everything that we've built is going to be destroyed we can't take this this is making us uncomfortable also amaziah said unto amos first he spoke to jeroboam and said oh you alert you know alarm you need to do something and now he speaks to amos and he says this oh you see her go get out of here i don't want to hear from you flee you away into the go back to where you came from go to the land of judah and there eat bread and prophesy there we don't want to hear you here go back to judah go back to where you came from and and do your talk there we don't need to hear it but prophesy not again anymore at bethel we do you understand who we are we we don't need to hear this here this is very upsetting what you're saying but prophesy not again anymore at bethel

why for it's the king's chapel and it is the king's court so so this priest is concerned about the state we need to protect the state you know the the state matters thus i i want to just read micah concerning these uh this relationship this antagonistic relationship with the prophets thus says the lord concerning the prophets that make my people air and christ warns us again this is eighth century uh micah to the south amos to the north a century but it's relevant to us today and christ himself warned us that in the last time there will be many false prophets and so we need to have a discerning ear and a discerning eye but here's something that that is uh the root or the motivation that god is indicating we need to look for for thus says jehovah concerning the prophets that make my people heir that bite with their teeth and cry peace they bite with their teeth and they cry peace and he that puts not in their mouths they even prepare war against him so they they want to build up their their wealth and they don't like anything that challenges that and then he says in verse 11 the heads thereof judge for reward and the priests thereof teach for hire again this is 8th century but this has to do with us today as well so they're in it for themselves and they

want they want to see how does this benefit you you see the behavior of amaziah

he's his judgment is based on reward and and he's he's hired by the state and the prophets thereof divine for money so all of this motivation people are people and in this last times we're going to have the same situation yet will they lean upon the lord and say is not the lord among us no evil can come upon us no doubt this was the message of amaziah to the people so he says that the land cannot bear his words because i'm telling them no evil can come upon us and amos is telling them you're going to be slaughtered you're going to be taken captive then answered ames and said to amaziah listen amaziah i was no prophet this is not something i was born into neither was i as prophet's son and i i wasn't mentored and brought up to do

this i was a herdman i was a farmer i gather more of a gatherer of sycamore fruit i was in judah in the woods gathering fruit and god that the lord took me as i followed the flock basically i was minding my own business literally and i'm following the flock and the lord took me as i was following the flock and the lord said unto me go prophesy unto my people israel so leave what you're doing and go up to the north and deliver my message to them now therefore

hear you the word of the lord you say prophesy not against israel and drop not your word against the house of isaac that's what you say okay therefore this is what the lord says amos is saying i'm amos is saying listen i i'm just in the middle here you're telling the people one thing i'm not a prophet i don't know how to prophesy i didn't go to prophecy school i didn't kind of hang around my father and figure out how to do this prophecy thing

i was minding my own business in the south were you telling me i need to go back to that's where i was and it's god that interrupted me directly and told me go to the north and deliver this message to them and now you're telling me to prophesy not because

the state doesn't want to hear this
therefore thus says the lord
he says this
therefore
thus says the lord
your wife
shall be a harlot in the city so what
this is saying is
you won't be able to take care of your

wife anymore
you're going to be taken captive
and your wife is going to have to fend
for herself and all the abundance that
you have right now it's gone
and so the only way she's going to have
to fend for herself she's going to
become a harlot
and your sons and your daughters

shall fall by the sword your seed is going to be slaughtered and your land shall be divided by line so they're going to come in and they're just going to divide up your land and you shall die in a polluted land and this this is this is deuteronomy this is this is the covenant in full force this is exactly what god said so these are not just made up curses this is coming out of the covenant this is coming out of the the agreement so he says you shall die in a polluted land so you

don't want to serve the lord your god in the promised land with joy

no problem you can serve your idols in a foreign land with hardness and you'll die there

and israel shall surely shall surely

go into captivity fourth

of his land so

what the prophets help us to do

is understand the future

before it happens

and that's very very difficult just the other day i guess it was a week ago we had a significant amount of snowfall significant

it was a lot quite unusual but they told us it was coming they told us it was coming in fact i said to my wife just the other day we we we were in a condo we're back in a house and in a condo the snow falls and you watch other people remove it in the house you have to do it yourself

and i said my you know when they give these forecasts i need to put time in my calendar to clear the snow i need to know put set aside a few hours but to do that you have to accept that the future is not going to be like the present that the future is going to be very different and then you live in the present with the reality of the future and this is the benefit that we have of studying the prophets of understanding that there is a duality to their passages to their visions to their to their prophesies prophesying that yes it's there there was an immediate fulfillment but in the very wording of their prophecies we understand that it wasn't just the immediate fulfillment that there was in fact a longer term fulfillment pointing to the time just before christ returns and i think i i think you would agree that as we watch this world unravel at an unprecedented pace and you know what what breaks my heart right now is what we're doing to the children globally that globally all these state governments have agreed it's like they've all said together let's destroy the children let's not have any regard for the children let's sacrifice let's offer the children to our gods it is amazing to me and it's it's heartbreaking i was in fact just watching a video the other day i forget the exact

context but there was a sort of a panel where they were talking about the lockdowns this one was in britain and they were talking about the lockdowns and they had a young lady she just graduated i guess high school barely and um she asked her like what has been the impact of these lockdowns on you and as she was describing she actually said i've watched my future collapse right before my eyes and then she was explaining the impact of the lockdowns on her education and how and while she's talking she just broke down crying and it just just tore me apart and that's just one of millions and when we look we look at what we're doing to the smallest of children and we're forcing these these vaccinations on them children who are not at risk and the pedophilia and the debt that we're burdening future generations with it's like we have no regard for the next generation we're destroying we're sacrificing them to satan it is just terrifying and all i can say is there is no way that the current state of affairs can continue uninterrupted jesus christ is furious and thank god almighty he's returning and when he does he's going to unleash his anger but he does say that those who turn many to righteousness shall shine like the stars

forever that is a promise from our god so let us be about our father's business preach this gospel woe unto me if i preach not the gospel the lion has roared

who can but prophesy let's be about our father's business let's understand that this current state this current world this present world is passing away and the glorious kingdom of god is about to be ushered in and we have the privilege of being part of that ushering in process god be with you brethren what a mighty god we serve amen you